

*****July 13, 2020*****

The Signal Mountain Town Council held a regular meeting electronically on Monday, July 13, 2020. The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. Those present were:

Those present were: Mayor Dan Landrum
Councilmember Cheryl Graham
Councilmember Bill Lusk
Councilmember Susannah Murdock

Also present were: Town Manager Boyd Veal
Town Attorney Harry Cash
Finance Director/Town Recorder Carol White

Mayor Landrum led the pledge of allegiance. A moment of silence was observed.

Minutes

The minutes for the June 8, 2020 regular meeting were presented. There being no changes, the minutes were approved.

Citizen Comments

Mayor Landrum invited comments from the audience.

Claire Griesinger, Carriage Hill Dr, asked when the Town will get new water meters and what is the timeline for installation. She also asked what were the two most important things considered when evaluating the proposals. Ms. Griesinger asked the Town to disseminate the information that there are some times available at the pool for walk-ups.

There being no further comments, the meeting resumed.

Resolutions

1. "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR THE PUBLIC ENTITY PARTNERS "SAFETY PARTNERS" LOSS CONTROLS MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM WHICH SHALL BE AWARDED IN AUGUST OF 2020."

Councilmember Lusk made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilmember Murdock seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote, with all Councilmembers present voting in favor of approving the Resolution.

2. "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO PURCHASE ONE (1) 2021 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 2500HD WORK TRUCK FROM WILSON COUNTY MOTORS, TENNESSEE STATE CONTRACT #64414, FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO

EXCEED THIRTY-TWO THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED SIXTY FIVE DOLLARS AND 60/100 (\$32,265.60) TO BE USED BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT FOR THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN.”

Councilmember Murdock made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilmember Graham seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote, with all Councilmembers present voting in favor of approving the Resolution.

3. “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO PURCHASE ONE (1) 2020 JOHN DEERE 310SL BACKHOE LOADER, TENNESSEE STATE CONTRACT NUMBER 48470, FROM MEADE EQUIPMENT, FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED NINETY EIGHT THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$98,350.00) TO BE USED BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT FOR THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN.”

Mr. Veal explained to Council that this piece of equipment is over budget but would come with equipment that will make it much more functional.

Councilmember Lusk made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilmember Graham seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote, with all Councilmembers present voting in favor of approving the Resolution.

The regular meeting was temporarily suspended for the Council to convene as the Water Board.

- Water Utility Director, Adam Chrnalogar, said there were 7 companies that submitted bids for AMR meters. He said Consolidate Pipe & Supply Co. has the lowest bid, good references, and has meters on the shelf and ready to ship.
- The Council discussed the best option for the Town for the installation of the meters. Mr. Chrnalogar said that Aqua Meter Consultants have stated they are capable of installing 500 meters a week.
- Water Utility Director, Adam Chrnalogar, said Aqua Meter Consultants was the lowest bid and they meet all the conditions of the bid specifications.
- Mr. Chrnalogar said that Aqua Meter will provide a GPS location for every meter and will interface with the current Local Government Corp. billing software.
- Mr. Chrnalogar said the company may be new, but the people running the operations are not new to the industry. He said the President and Vice President of Aqua Meter Consultants have been in the industry since the late 80’s.
- He said they anticipate installation of meters of up to 500 meters a week.

The regular meeting was reconvened.

4. “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO AWARD A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF UP TO 3500 NEW AUTOMATED METER READ (AMR) STYLE WATER METERS AND ALL ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT, SOFTWARE, TRAINING AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO OPERATE THE AMR

SYSTEM TO CONSOLIDATED PIPE AND SUPPLY COMPANY, INC., CHATTANOOGA, TN, FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED SEVEN HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND, ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$775,100.00) TO BE USED BY THE WATER UTILITY DEPARTMENT FOR THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN.”

Councilmember Lusk made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilmember Graham seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote, with all Councilmembers present voting in favor of approving the Resolution.

5. “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO AWARD A CONTRACT FOR THE INSTALLATION OF UP TO 3500 NEW AUTOMATED METER READ (AMR) STYLE WATER METERS TO AQUA METER CONSULTANTS, MCDONOUGH, GA, FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF ONE HUNDRED NINETEEN THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$119,500.00) WITH AN ADDITIONAL TEN PERCENT CONTINGENCY OF ELEVEN THOUSAND, NINE HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS (\$11,950.00).”

Councilmember Graham made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilmember Lusk seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote, with all Councilmembers present voting in favor of approving the Resolution.

Ordinances

1. “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 18-107 OF THE TOWN CODE TO ESTABLISH NEW RATE SCHEDULE, WATER RATES AND FEES FOR THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN WATER UTILITY BEGINNING AUGUST 1, 2020.”

Town Manager, Boyd Veal, explained that this is the second of three increases recommended by the Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) water rate study. He said the water utility has several projects that are needed including some that were not anticipated at the time of the study. These projects include the SR8 water line relocation, line relocation on Sunset, and engineering for a new project in Hidden Brook. Mr. Veal explained that this rate adjustment will result in an increase of \$3.48 per month for a home using 4,000 gallons per month, which is relatively high usage.

Councilmember Lusk made a motion to approve the first reading of the ordinance. Councilmember Graham seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote, with all Councilmembers present voting in favor of approving the first reading of the ordinance.

Discussion

a. Recreation Facilities.

Mr. Veal said that there was a minor issue regarding the phone system for residents to call to reserve a time to swim laps at the pool. He said however, that voice mail messages were e-mailed to Jarred.

Mr. Veal said residents can walk up to swim if the lanes are not already booked.

Councilmember Graham said she proposes allowing swimmers from 13 years and up. She said that Baylor is not allowing swimming by anyone under the age of 16, and the local swim team has asked that those 13-years old and up be allowed to lap swim.

After further discussion, Mayor Landrum made a motion to lower the age to 13 years old temporarily and to revisit the issue in 2 weeks. Councilmember Graham seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 3-1 roll call vote, with Mayor Landrum, Councilmember Graham, and Councilmember Murdock in favor, and with Councilmember Lusk opposed.

Mr. Veal pointed out that our pool is a Municipal pool while, other than Red Bank (which is operated by a semi-private group), all the other pools in and around Chattanooga that are open are community pools.

b. Upcoming Council Vacancy. Mayor Landrum said that the Council has the option to not fill the vacancy and to wait for the November election. He said he does not like this option because a tie vote means the item fails. Mayor Landrum also said that an appointed person could have an advantage if they run for a Council position in November, by appearing to be an incumbent.

Councilmember Lusk said that the Council vote in unison 95% of the time. He said there may be 1 dissenter but not usually more. He said he doesn't think this is a problem.

Councilmember Murdock stated that the earliest that a person could be appointed will be late August. Councilmember Graham said that if appointed in late August the person would not be on the Council long enough to get up to speed.

Council reached a consensus that the vacant position would not be filled prior to the November election.

Councilmember Graham made a motion to ask Councilmember Lusk to take on the responsibility of Vice Mayor until the next election. Mayor Landrum seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote, with Councilmembers Graham and Murdock and Mayor Landrum voting in favor, with Councilmember Lusk abstaining.

- c. Proposed Changes to Landscape Ordinance. Council discussed having a representative from the Tree Board come to a Council meeting to discuss this item. Council asked Councilmember Lusk to see if the Tree Board can meet electronically with the Council at 4:00 p.m. on July 23rd.

Manager's Report

Mr. Veal said the Town has received the Moody's rating for this year, which remains Aa3.

Mr. Veal said that Police Chief, Mike Williams, has sent a letter to local businesses regarding the mask mandate. He said this letter explains that the businesses are asked to encourage compliance, but that the Police department will help if there is a major issue.

Mr. Veal said the lease and MO are in place and executed between the Town and the Signal Mountain Elementary Preservation Fund for the operation of the Mountain Arts Community Center.

Mr. Veal said that all the documents have been submitted to the State for the \$219,000 Local Support Grant.

Mr. Veal said the construction phase for the Local Parks & Recreation Fund grant project is out to bid. He said the bids are due in 3 weeks. Mr. Veal said the bid is also out for paving.

Mr. Veal said the Recycle Center procedures were changed. Residents will now, once inside the gate, pull towards Taft Highway. He said there are 3 spaces to allow cars to park and unload.

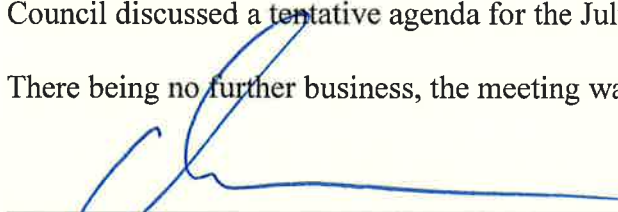
Other Business

- a. Communications from the Mayor. None
- b. Communications from Committees or Boards. None
- c. Communications from the Town Council. None

Tentative Agenda

Council discussed a tentative agenda for the July 27, 2020 meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.



Dan Landrum, Mayor



Recorder